an actuating device including a sheave around which a rope engaged with an ascending and descending cage is wound, the cage having a horizontal cross-sectional area, said sheave being adapted to rotate thereby to move said rope with its rotation, and a driving section for rotating said sheave, and

a shielding body for shielding said actuating device, the shielding body having a horizontal cross-sectional area less than the cross-sectional area of the cage,

wherein said actuating device and said shielding body are installed on a rooftop permanently attached to a building in which said ascending and descending cage is disposed, said shielding body being readily detachable from said rooftop.

Please add new claim 8 as follows:

--8. (New) An elevator apparatus comprising:

an actuating device including a speed-reducer, a drive assembly and a brake assembly mounted on a single input shaft, a sheave around which a rope engaged with an ascending and descending cage is wound, said sheave being adapted to rotate thereby to move said rope with its rotation, said sheave arranged coaxial with the single input shaft, and a driving section for rotating said sheave, and

a shielding body for shielding said actuating device,

wherein said actuating device and said shielding body are installed on a rooftop of a building in which said ascending and descending cage is disposed, said shielding body being readily detachable from said rooftop.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are currently pending in the application, as amended. Claim 1 has been amended to specifically point out and claim that the shielding body has a horizontal cross-sectional area that is less than the cross-sectional area of the cage. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification on page 7, lines 7-11, page 9, lines 15-22 and in Fig. 2. Claim 1 has been further amended to recite as a limitation that the elevator apparatus is installed on a